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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A/D ORR

DATE: May 2, 1961

FROM : [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

SUBJECT: Foreign Statistics

A valuable source of foreign statistical material including some publications from iron curtain countries is available at the Bureau of the Census. For example we have located there an important new Russian statistical quarterly which we had previously been unable to find. Included also are fairly complete recent files of the official economic statistical publications of several satellite countries together with miscellaneous publications.

The census acquires this material on the basis of technical exchange usually initiated by a visit to the Census Bureau by a foreign statistician who is in search of advice. The materials given or subsequently sent to these correspondents are unclassified and available to the public at our Government Printing Office.

Notwithstanding this availability, there has been a recent ruling on the part of the Commerce Department to the effect that the Bureau of the Census must discontinue exchange with satellite technicians. (See attached memos) This makes it fairly certain that they in turn will soon discontinue their sending material to the census. From the viewpoint of collection of economic statistics this would hamper our operations.

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